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Department of State TELEGRAM

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S E C R E T MONTEVIDEO 1664

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SUBJECT: MITRIONE MURDER

REF: MONTEVIDEO 1663

1. FIRST PARAGRAPH REFTEL DESCRIBES STATUS OF EFFORTS THROUGH "CHANNELS."

2. AS FOR EFFORTS POLICE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM KIDNAP LEADERS, I ASKED (PEIRANO) TODAY IF IT WERE TRUE THAT GOVT HAD STILL BEEN UNABLE OBTAIN AUTHORITY OF JUDICIARY TO EMPLOY SODIUM PENTATHOL. HE REPLIED THAT THE FIRST JUDGE SEIZED OF THE CASE HAD REJECTED GOVT'S REQUEST AND LATTER APPEALED. THE DECISION OF THE APPEAL JUDGE IS EXPECTED TODAY. PEIRANO EXPLAINED THAT TO GO AHEAD AGAINST JUDICIARY WOULD OPEN GOVT TO DANGEROUS OPPOSITION FROM PUBLIC. IN ANSWER MY QUERY, HE SAID THAT IF GENERAL ASSEMBLY APPROVED TODAY SUSPENSION CONSITITUTIONAL GUARANTEES ON CIVIL RIGHTS AS PRESIDENT PROPOSED THIS MORNING, GOVT COULD LEGALLY PROCEED WITHOUT JUDICIARY'S APPROVAL.
ADAIR

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NODIS REVIEW
Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S
Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S
Reviewed by:
Date: 17 Dec 1982

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/IR
REVIEWED BY 4/22/83

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